

Appl. No. 09/335,363
Amdt. Dated December 15, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of September 15, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 1884-39D (81841.0019)
Customer No. 26021

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 15 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George SHIBATA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/335,363

Confirmation No.: 6398

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND HANDLING
INTERFACE TO MULTIPLE
CHEMISTRY ANALYZERS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Latoya I. Cross

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being transmitted via facsimile to
(703) 872-9306:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 15, 2004

Date of Deposit

Diane Zynn

Name

Signature

12/15/04
Date

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 15, 2004, please
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which
begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

500 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE
SUITE 1900
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071

Tel.: (213) 337-6700
Fax: (213) 337-6701

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 15 2004

WASHINGTON, DC
BRUSSELS
BUDAPEST*
LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS*
PRAGUE*
TOKYO
WARSAW
BALTIMORE, MD
BOULDER, CO
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
DENVER, CO
IRVINE, CA
MCLEAN, VA
MIAMI, FL
NEW YORK, NY (PARK AVE)
NEW YORK, NY (THIRD AVE)
ROCKVILLE, MD

*Affiliated Office

IMPORTANT NOTICE TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner: Latoya L Cross
Art Unit: 1743

DATE: December 15, 2004

FROM: Barry M. Shuman

TIME: _____

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 13

The attached information is CONFIDENTIAL and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s) named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient(s) or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient(s), please note that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Anyone who receives this communication in error should notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Mail.

MESSAGE:

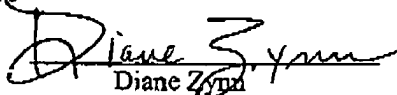
RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/335,363; Attorney Ref: 81841.0019

I hereby certify that the following documents:

- 1.116 Amendment
- Amendment Transmittal Letter

are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

December 15, 2004
Date of Deposit


Diane Zynn

TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306

CLIENT NUMBER: 81841.0019

ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER: 6085

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: (571) 272-1256 (please return fax to Diane Zynn)

FORM PTO-1083

DEC 15 2004

Patent Application No. 09/335,363
Attorney Docket No. 1884-39D (81841.0019)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George SHIBATA, et al.

Serial No: 09/335,363

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND HANDLING INTERFACE TO
MULTIPLE CHEMISTRY ANALYZERS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Latoya I. Cross

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being transmitted via facsimile to
(703) 872-9306:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 15, 2004

Date of Deposit

Diane Zynn

Name

Signature

12/15/04

Date

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE	ADD'L FEE DUE
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	28	-	34	**	LG=\$18 SM=\$9	\$ \$
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	2	-	2	***	LG=\$84 SM=\$42	\$ \$
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$280 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$140	\$
Independent Claims: 15 and 28					TOTAL	\$

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$___ to cover the additional claims fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$___ to cover the extension fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

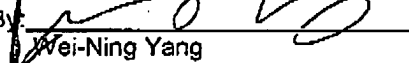
☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Dated: December 15, 2004

Biltmore Tower
500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Telephone: 213 337-6700
Facsimile: 213 337-6701

By: 
Wei-Ning Yang
Registration No. 38,690
Attorney for Applicant(s)